

CDC Warning of Salmonella Contaminated Food Product: PETER PAN PEANUT BUTTER and Great Value (Wal-Mart brand) product code "2111."

This product is reported to have been purchased by Americans at the US Mission in Brussels and in a grocery store in Dubai, South America, and Europe. Therefore, it may be available in this region. If you have purchased any, destroy the product and report any signs of illness to your medical provider.

The affected jars of Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter have a product code located on the lid of the jar that begins with the number "2111." These products may have national distribution.

Public health officials in multiple states, with the assistance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S Food and Drug Administration are investigating a large multistate outbreak of Salmonella infections. Interviews comparing foods eaten by ill and well persons show that consumption of Peter Pan peanut butter was statistically associated with illness and therefore the most likely source of the outbreak.

As of February 15th at 3PM EST, 290 persons with Salmonella Tennessee, the Salmonella type associated with this outbreak, have been reported to CDC from 39 states. Among 185 patients for whom clinical information is available, 44 (24%) were hospitalized. There have been no reports of deaths attributed to this infection. Onset dates, which are known for 171 patients, ranged from August 1, 2006 to January 30, 2007.

Persons who think they may have become ill from eating peanut butter are advised to visit their health care provider and call their local health departments. Persons who have become ill and have Peter Pan or Great Value peanut butter with product code beginning with "2111" should set aside the jar for possible collection by local health officials for further testing. Persons who have not become ill and have peanut butter with product code "2111" should discard the jar.

Most persons infected with Salmonella develop diarrhea, fever, and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days, and most persons recover without treatment. However, in some persons the diarrhea may be so severe that the patient needs to be hospitalized. The elderly, infants, and those with impaired immune systems are more likely to have a severe illness.

For more information on this CDC warning please go to:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/salmonellosis_2007/outbreak_notice.htm